

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary a few days before the election is a clear example of the very real problem with media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. This is another example of large media corporations biased in favor of the existing administration. This, along with pulling the Ronald Reagan movie and refusing to air legitimate political commercial during the Super Bowl are prime examples of the influence politics now has on the media that serves us. And these kinds of policies are rewarded by FCC rulings that give additional power to the large media conglomerates.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.